

## 24<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

He summoned the crowd with his disciples and said to them, "Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me. For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake and that of the gospel will save it." - Mk 8:34-35

September 12, 2021



**St. Mary of the Lakes Catholic Church**

**Rev. Carlos Bedoya, Pastor**

218 Ocklawaha Ave. Eustis, FL 32726

8:30 AM – 4:00 PM / Fridays: 8:30 AM – Noon

Tel. (352) 483-3500 / Fax (352) 483-1370

## Reflections for the 24<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

### **First Reading: Isaiah 50:5–9a**

This passage from the second half of Isaiah is the third of the four Servant Songs. The servant of the Lord depicted in these songs points forward to Christ, who will suffer for the sins of the people. In this third song, we find the servant engaging in three specific heroic actions, which lead to one concrete result. First, he speaks the Lord's word to encourage others who are "weary" (Isaiah 50:4), which corresponds to Jesus's proclamation of the Kingdom of God. Second, he listens to the Lord and submits to his will in humble obedience, as we see Jesus do in the Garden of Gethsemane (see Luke 22:42). Third, the Servant endures undeserved suffering—beating, beard plucking, insults, and spitting—which point forward to Jesus's suffering during his trial, scourging, and crucifixion. In all of these difficulties, however, the servant does not lose heart. He looks to God as his "help" (Isaiah 50:9) and believes that the Lord will vindicate his honor after the time of suffering is ended. The vindication of the servant corresponds to Jesus's Resurrection from the dead, which demonstrates that eternal life is stronger than death. In fact, through death, Christ has conquered death. In order for us to be truly Christian, we must imitate the life of the Suffering Servant. Like him, we must listen to the Lord, submitting ourselves to him in complete obedience. As part of our obedience, we must be willing to undergo suffering for the sake of the Gospel, while we imitate Jesus's preaching by sharing the Good News with other people. If we follow in the footsteps of Jesus, then we too will share in his victory and hopefully experience the Resurrection of the dead.

### **Second Reading: James 2:14–18**

Religion can easily become a mere abstraction. We see this phenomenon in contemporary notions of those who are "spiritual but not religious" or in self-soothing meditation. It is tempting to think of Christianity as a form of therapy, in which our personal needs are met by "feel good" theology. In these ways and many others, faith remains merely at the emotive level, without actually influencing

my life or my actions. St. James is warning us against this type of belief in his letter. He is likely trying to correct bad interpretations of Saint Paul's teachings on faith and works. Paul focuses on salvation by faith rather than by observing the ritual prescriptions of the Law of Moses, which many Jews regarded as necessary for salvation. Paul shows that God wanted the Gentiles, who do not observe circumcision, kosher eating, and other rituals to be part of his new covenant family in Christ. Yet some people misunderstood Paul and thought that he wasn't concerned about works as much as faith. James teaches us that we must act on our faith, not just intellectually assent to our faith. Believing in Jesus is a life-transforming event, which is meant to impact every area of our lives. Nevertheless, we don't simply "earn" a ticket to Heaven through good behavior. Jesus is the one who saves us, but we must cooperate with his grace, repent of our sins, and live with the theological virtues of faith, hope, and charity.

### **Gospel: Mark 8:27–35**

Many people acknowledge Jesus as a great religious teacher but do not actually follow his teachings. Today's Gospel drives home the fact that mere intellectual recognition of Jesus is not enough. He asks his disciples, "Who do people say that I am?" (Mark 8:27). After they give him a report, he then asks them personally, "But who do you say that I am?" (v. 29). The point is that we cannot acknowledge Jesus's existence but then not make any changes to our lives. Rather, we must be baptized in the name of the Lord and then surrender our entire lives to him, rejecting our bad habits. And, if we were baptized as infants, we must ask for an increase in the theological virtues of faith, hope, and charity as we journey toward the heavenly fatherland. Saint Peter sets the example for us by publicly proclaiming that Jesus is the Messiah, but he fails to accept the whole mission. When Jesus predicts his own Passion, Death, and Resurrection, Peter denies that it will happen, showing his own lack of faith in Christ's redemptive mission. In turn, Jesus rebukes Peter as "Satan" for failing to think like God thinks. Jesus's words recall the words of Isaiah: "My thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways" (Isaiah 56:8). Our thinking

can be very limited, yet we must have faith in Christ's Paschal MYstery. In fact, suffering and death are at the heart of Christ's mission as the Messiah, and the same will be true for us as we follow him In order to be real disciples of Christ, we must follow Jesus on the road to Mt. Calvary: deny oneself, take up the cross, and follow him. The only way to save your life is to lose it (see v. 35) and the only path to resurrection is through suffering and death.

**Reflection:** Winter can be depressing. Depending on where you live in the country, you may not see the sun for two or three months. The temperature can be bone-chillingly cold, and there is little sign of life except for the brave neighbors shoveling their driveways. The days are short and dark, the trees are lifeless, and we don't hear children playing outside or birds chirping. It can seem very desolate. Carrying our cross is often a "winter" for our soul. It can be challenging, lonely, and may seem never-ending. The hope that we have in Christ is like hoping for the springtime. We carry our cross and die to ourselves so that we can experience the Resurrection with him. Just as flowers bud and blossom again, the trees grow leaves, and the sun grows warmer in the springtime, so too do our souls become nourished and refreshed when we give ourselves entirely to Christ. But, in order to experience this beautiful springtime, we must first go through the trial of winter.

- 2017 Augustine Institute

***A Prayer for Spiritual Communion***

**My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.**

**I love You above all things and I desire to receive You into my soul.**

**Since I cannot, at this moment, receive You sacramentally,**

**Come at least spiritually into my heart.**

**I embrace You as if You were already there**

**And unite myself wholly to You.**

**Never permit me to be separated from You.**

**Amen.**

**ANSWER THE CALL  
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RETREAT**

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218 Ocklawaha Avenue Eustis, FL 32726  
PARISH HALL & PARISH CENTER

**SEPT 18, 2021**      **9:00 am - 2:00 pm**  
Check-in 8:30 am  
COST: \$15  
LUNCH WILL BE PROVIDED

**TO REGISTER:**  
<https://discipleshipretreats2021-2022.eventbrite.com>  
Click on the green box **TICKETS** to begin.

**READINGS FOR THE 24TH WEEK  
IN ORDINARY TIME**

- Monday: 1 Tm 2:1-8/Ps 40:7-8a, 8b-9, 10, 17 [1Cor 11:26b]/Lk 7:1-10  
**St. John Chrysostom, Bishop and Doctor of the Church**
- Tuesday: Nm 21:4b-9/Ps 78:1bc-2, 34-35, 36-37, 38 [cf. 7b]/Phil 2:6-11/Jn 3:13-17  
**The Exaltation of the Holy Cross**
- Wednesday: 1 Tm 3:14-16/Ps 111:1-2, 3-4, 5-6 [2]/Jn 19:25-27 or Lk 2:33-35  
**Our Lady of Sorrows**
- Thursday: 1 Tm 4:12-16/Ps 111:7-8, 9, 10 [2]/Lk 7:36-50  
**Sts. Cornelius, Pope, and Cyprian, Bishop, Martyrs**
- Friday: 1 Tm 6:2c-12/Ps 49:6-7, 8-10, 17-18, 19-20/Lk 8:1-3  
**St. Robert Bellarmine, Bishop and Doctor of the Church**
- Saturday: 1 Tm 6:13-16/Ps 100:1b-2, 3, 4, 5 [2]/Lk 8:4-15  
**BVM**
- Sunday: Wis 2:12, 17-20/Ps 54:3-4, 5, 6-8 [6b]/Jas 3:16—4:3/Mk 9:30-37  
**25th Sunday in Ordinary Time and Catechetical Sunday**

## GOSPEL MEDITATION: 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

We need to get our bearings straight and properly lay life's cornerstone. Otherwise, the rest of our journey will be skewed, and our judgment clouded. We can recall Jesus' famous rebuke of Peter, "You are thinking not as God does, but as human beings do." Even he, as one of Jesus' closest friends struggles with understanding things and grasping the big picture. Pierre Teilhard de Chardin (1881-1955) a renowned and learned French Jesuit priest often has these words attributed to him: "We are not human beings having a spiritual experience. We are spiritual beings having a human experience." Whether they were actually from his lips, they certainly mimic his thought. These wise words orient us and capture the essence of who we really are.

Many people consider spirituality an option. It is no wonder that they come to this conclusion when they predominantly define themselves using human terms and concepts. Immersed in this world view, they struggle finding any semblance of God because God does not work according to human expectations! This is especially true when suffering and death enter life's picture. If we are only human beings having a spiritual experience, then we wrongly expect our spirituality to serve us as we desire. The human expectation is that my spiritual life is something that is useful in avoiding pain, hardship, and death, not something that gives the courage to live through it!

So, when we protest and get upset with God because our journey is becoming difficult, painful, treacherous, disappointing, and even pointing us toward death, Jesus rebukes us as he did Peter and gently reminds us how to see. It is God who inspires and opens hearts to see truth and beauty. In God, the true meaning of things is understood, and we receive a depth of insight and understanding that is not found following purely human paths. It is not our task to understand God, as God is beyond human understanding. Ours is the joyful privilege of simply resting in God's presence simply because God is God and we are who we are. As spiritual beings having an exciting and adventurous human experience, it is in our DNA to do so. Through prayer we can let go and let be. This is how we lose our lives but then save them. —LPi

### A COMMUNION PRAYER



Jesus, although You have existed with the Father and the Holy Spirit from the beginning, You came among us in Your human nature and showed us the depth of divine love. With amazement, I think about how You, Almighty God, became man. Even more, with astonishment I recall Your words to Your disciples that to have eternal life, we have to eat the bread that is You. Jesus, I have now received the miracle of Your flesh and blood in this Holy Communion. May I grow in the awareness that your divine life is now within me. Please let my attitude reflect Your presence in me.

Lord Jesus, I believe that You are truly present within the consecrated bread which has been blessed and broken. Through the eyes of faith, I affirm that what I have received is Your Body and Blood.

Lord Jesus, in this celebration of faith, I have received the cup of blessing. It is the new and eternal covenant of Your love. May I proclaim, once again, this day that you are the Christ, the anointed One of God, who has come to me. Amen. —Source Unknown

### MASS SCHEDULE

#### DAILY MASS TIMES

Monday—Friday

8:00 AM (English)

Tuesday

6:30 PM (Spanish)

#### WEEKEND MASSES

Saturday Vigil

4:00 PM (English)

Sunday

8:00 & 10:00 AM (English)

12:00 PM (Spanish)

#### HOLY DAYS OF OBLIGATION

Vigil 7:00 PM (Bilingual)

Holy Day

8:00 AM (English)

#### CONFESSIONS

Tuesdays 7:15 PM

Fridays after 8:00 AM Mass

Saturdays 3-4 PM

or any time upon request

**"The whole world is understaffed. Be kind to those who show up."**

**-The Catfish Place, Apopka**

# St. Mary of the Lakes Gifts for the Soul

is now open after all Masses.  
Come to browse, to shop, or to just share  
a cup of coffee and a snack with us.



**THE THRIFT STORE WILL ALSO BE  
OPEN THE FIRST  
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FROM 9:00 AM—1:00 PM**  
**Saturday, Oct. 02**  
**Saturday, Nov. 06**  
**Saturday, Dec. 04**



*The Pope's Intention for  
September:*  
**AN ENVIRONMENTALLY  
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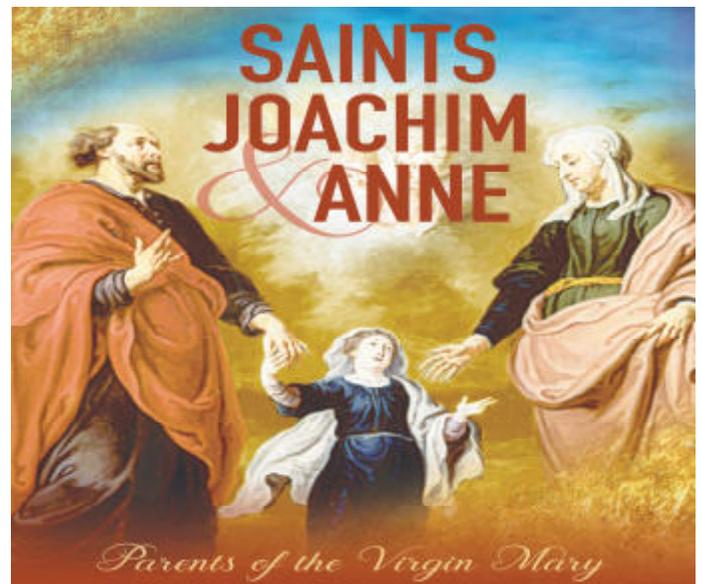
<https://www.stmaryofthelakesparish.org>

We continue to livestream and to post the 4:00 PM Mass, featuring Fr. Carlos Bedoya as the presider, for our parishioners to be able to hear his inspiring homilies on YouTube or our Facebook page.



## St. Mary of the Lakes

has prayer blankets made by members of our Prayer Blanket Ministry. These blankets are for parishioners, and any of their friends, who need healing emotionally, physically, and/or spiritually. The blankets bring hope, comfort, and peace to those in need. Prayer blankets are available in the church office for no charge, and you may select the one/s you wish to give.



It was in the home of Joachim and Ann where the Virgin Mary received her training to be the Mother of God. Thus, devotion to Ann and Joachim is an extension of the affection Christians have always professed toward our Blessed Mother. As Joachim and Anne are the grandparents of Jesus, today has traditionally become a day to honor one's grandparents.

- USCCB

# Faith in Action

Are you an adult missing  
Sacraments of Initiation?

## RCIA

classes will begin in  
October. Register at the  
parish office today!

## Faith Formation Registration

continues at the parish office  
as late registration. Please  
don't delay!  
Classes begin September 13.

# Children's Faith Formation

<b>Monday, Sept. 13th</b>	<b>5:30-7 PM</b>	<b>Grades PreK-5th (including FHC classes)</b>
<b>Tuesday, Sept. 14th</b>	<b>5:30-7 PM</b>	<b>Grades 7-up (Pre-Confirmation classes)</b>
<b>Monday, Sept. 20th Night</b>	<b>5:30-7 PM</b>	<b>Middle School Youth (grades 6-8)</b>



**Catechists and Volunteers Needed**  
Answer the call! Contact the parish office today!

For more information, please call Mrs. Monica Vega at 352-483-3500 ext. 203  
(or e-mail [faithformation@stmaryofthelakesparish.org](mailto:faithformation@stmaryofthelakesparish.org))

# Fe En Acción



## Formación en la fe de los niños

Lunes, Sept. 13	5:30-7 PM	Grados PreK-5 (Primera Comunión)
Martes, Sept. 14	5:30-7 PM	Grados 6-8 (Pre-Confirmación)
Lunes, Sept. 20	5:30-7 PM	Grupo de jóvenes (grados 6-8)

### Necesitamos Catequistas

Responde la llamada! ¡Póngase en contacto con la oficina parroquial hoy mismo!

Para información, por favor llamar a Sra. Mónica Vega al 352-483-3500 ext. 203 (o e-mail [faithformation@stmaryofthelakesparish.org](mailto:faithformation@stmaryofthelakesparish.org))

## Reflexiones para el domingo 24 En tiempo ordinario

### MEDITACIÓN EVANGÉLICO: ALENTAR ENTENDIMIENTO MÁS PROFUNDO DE LA ESCRITURA

Y ustedes, ¿quién dicen que soy yo? Es la pregunta que Jesús hizo a sus discípulos en su tiempo histórico, y ahora nos la hace a nosotros. Es una pregunta muy importante que debe ser respondida individualmente. Con ayuda de la fe, se puede dar una respuesta más efectiva. Dicho de otro modo, la verdadera fe incluye un compromiso diario de aventurarse en el misterio de la cruz. Es difícil el camino, pero te lleva a la vida. La reflexión del Papa Francisco es de gran ayuda para adentrar en detalle e iluminar a cada uno en el saber dónde está nuestra respuesta ahora.

“Pero el Señor quiere que sus discípulos de ayer y de hoy establezcan con él una relación personal, y así lo acojan en el centro de sus vidas. Por esto los exhorta a ponerse con toda la verdad entre sí mismos y les pregunta. ¿Y ustedes, quién dicen que soy yo? Jesús, hoy, nos vuelve a dirigir esta pregunta tan directa y confidencial a cada uno de nosotros” (9/16/018). Puede ser que contestemos como Pedro, quien, lleno de entusiasmo y quizá sin pensar, da una respuesta inmediata: “Tú eres el Mesías” (Marcos 8:29). Pedro, te has sacado un diez de nota, que buena respuesta has dado. Pero enseguida, te equivocaste al querer decirle lo que debería de hacer con respecto a sus padecimientos en la cruz. El Papa Francisco continúa diciéndonos: “Jesús nos dice que, para seguirle, se necesita negarse a uno mismo, es decir, los pretextos del propio orgullo egoísta, y cargar con la cruz”. Enseguida, el Evangelio nos dice: “¿De qué le sirve a uno si ha ganado el mundo entero, pero se ha destruido a sí mismo?” ©LPi



### VIVIR LA LITURGIA : INSPIRACIÓN DE LA SEMANA

Descansa en la presencia de Dios simplemente porque Dios es Dios y tú eres tú. Eso es todo lo que se necesita. De esta relación surgirán inspiración, comprensión, valentía, constancia, verdad y virtudes de todo tipo. Nos encontraremos conociendo el verdadero significado de las cosas y desarrollando una profundidad de percepción que no se encuentra siguiendo espacios puramente humanos. Es Dios quien inspira y abre los corazones humanos para ver la verdad y la belleza. En Dios, entendemos todas nuestras relaciones con un aprecio más rico y llegamos a saber quién es realmente Jesús, quien habla del reino de Dios. La confianza que se fomenta al descansar con el Divino nos permite ver que los caminos de Dios no son nuestros caminos. Hay algo más grande sucediendo en esta imagen de la vida. Es algo místico y mágico que busca sorprendernos a cada paso. No nos corresponde aferrarnos a este mundo y sus limitaciones. Nuestra aventura es soñar más grande y brillante, dándonos cuenta de que incluso en el sufrimiento llegará la luz radiante del amanecer. Los caminos de Dios permiten que nuestros caminos sean pedregosos, desafiantes, difíciles e incluso paralizantes en ocasiones. Los ojos puramente humanos no pueden entender el "por qué" de tales experiencias. Los ojos y la mente de Dios, sin embargo, revelan y detallan un viaje que termina en un glorioso gozo de resurrección. Cuando perdemos nuestro eje y nos volvemos demasiado humanos en nuestro pensamiento, Jesús nos reprende y nos recuerda delicadamente cómo ver.

# Lecturas de la Semana

## XXIV Domingo de Tiempo Ordinario

Lunes: 1 Tm 2, 1-8/Sal 39, 7-8. 8-9.10.  
17 [1Cor 11, 26]/Lc 7, 1-10

San Juan Crisóstomo, obispo

Martes: Nm 21, 4-9/Sal 77, 1-2. 34-35.  
36-37. 38 [cfr. 7]/Flp 2, 6-11/Jn  
3, 13-17

La Exaltación de la Santa Cruz

Miércoles: 1 Tm 3, 14-16/Sal 110, 1-2. 3-4.  
5-6 [2]/Jn 19, 25-27 o Lc 2, 33-  
35

La Exaltación de la Santa Cruz

Jueves: 1 Tm 4, 12-16/Sal 110, 7-8. 9.  
10 [2]/Lc 7, 36-50

San Cornelio, papa, y San  
Cipriano, obispo, mártires

Viernes: 1 Tm 6, 2-12/Sal 48, 6-7. 8-10.  
17-18. 19-20/Lc 8, 1-3

San Roberto Belarmino,  
obispo y doctor de la Iglesia

Sábado: 1 Tm 6, 13-16/Sal 99, 1-2. 3. 4.  
5 [2]/Lc 8, 4-15

BVM

Domingo siguiente: Sab 2, 12. 17-20/Sal 53, 3  
-4. 5. 6-8 [6]/Sant 3, 16—4, 3/  
Mc 9, 30-37

“El que quiera venir  
conmigo, que renuncie a  
sí mismo, que cargue con  
su cruz y que me siga”.

MARCOS 8, 34



*Si desea bautizar a su hijo(a) favor llamar  
a la oficina parroquial 352-483-3500.*

*La próxima clase es el*

*2 de octubre 2021.*

*9 a.m. Muchas gracias.*

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ARTÍCULOS  
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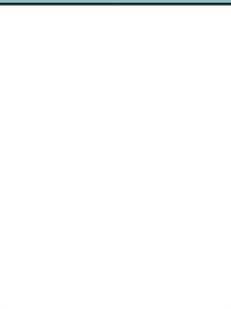
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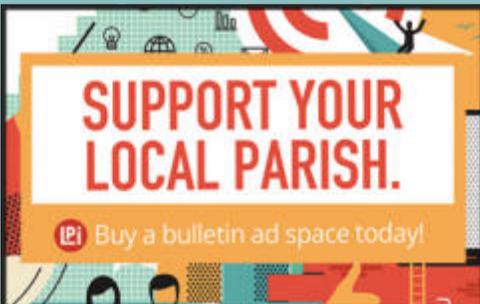


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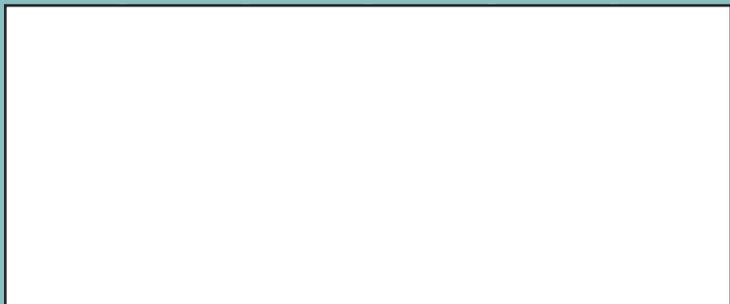
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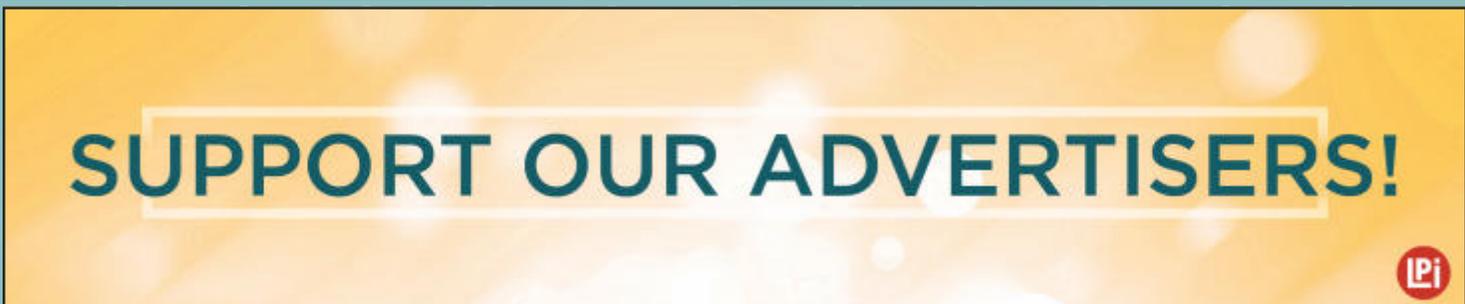


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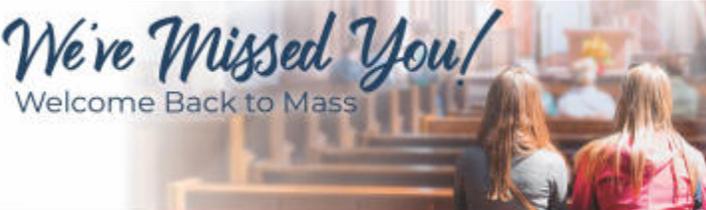


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Parish Office

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Parish Liturgical Ministries

Altar Servers - Leonardo Mancilla 352-483-3500  
- Don Basta 352-483-3500

EMHC - Mary Specht 352-483-3500  
- Monica Vega 352-483-3500

Music Ministry - Reagan McCray 352-483-3500

Readers - Anne Yearwood 352-483-3500  
- Maria Anguiano 352-483-3500

Ushers - Sidney Wright 352-483-3500  
- Julia Martínez 352-483-3500

Parish Ministries

Bereavement - Donna Michels 352-483-3500  
- Gloria Wright 352-483-3500

Bible Study/Faith Sharing - Paula Shafer 352-483-3500

Carismáticos - Alejandra Salgado 352-483-3500

Juan XXIII - Víctor Rivas 352-483-3500

Knights of Columbus - Bob Nixon 352-483-3500

Ministry to the Sick - Tim & Donna Simpson 352-483-3500

Museum - Joyce Welch 352-483-3500  
(After Weekend Masses)

Prayer Blankets - Connie Prudhomme 352-483-3500

Pro-Life - Gerri Hickey 352-483-3500

Radio Station Ambassador - Sue Hooper 352-483-3500

RCIA Facilitator - Mary Green 352-483-3500

Religious Articles Store - Mapi Gonzalez 352-589-8141

Small Christian Communities - Sidney Wright 352-483-3500

St. Vincent de Paul Society - Jill Stephenson 352-589-2603  
( Tues. and Thurs. 10 AM-12 PM )

St. Luke's Medical & Dental Clinic 352-602-4640  
( Mon. & Thurs. 10 AM - 4 PM )

Thrift Store -Judith Kellogg-Furey 352-357-2146  
( Wed. & Thurs. 9 AM - 1 PM )  
(Also 1st Sat. of each month 9-1)

Youth and Young Adults - Monica Vega 352-483-3500



**MONDAY, September 13**  
8:00 AM †Barbara Vandermause

**TUESDAY, September 14**  
8:00 AM †In Thanksgiving to San Expedito and  
San Benito Abad  
6:30 PM †Lorena Pena

**WEDNESDAY, September 15**  
8:00 AM Spec. Int. for Mike Ramirez

**THURSDAY, September 16**  
8:00 AM †Carl Gakstatter

**FRIDAY, September 17**  
8:00 AM †Phyllis Cook

**SATURDAY, September 18**  
4:00 PM Carol Richards  
†Joe Krol  
†Richard Figueroa  
†Clifford St. Louis

**SUNDAY, September 19**  
8:00 AM †Dec. Mem. of the Hierholzer Fam.

10:00 AM Our Parishioners

12:00 PM †Salustia Gonzalez  
†Mirtelina Tata Garcia

All parishes are asked to remember our deceased priests who were incarnated for the Orlando Diocese, or who are buried at the San Pedro Center. For September they are:

- September 14, 2017 Msgr. Patrick Caverly
- September 19, 2016 Very Rev. John McCormick
- September 23, 1986 Rev. Louis Bamundo
- September 27, 1995 Rev. Charles Schneider

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let Perpetual Light shine upon them. May the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

